

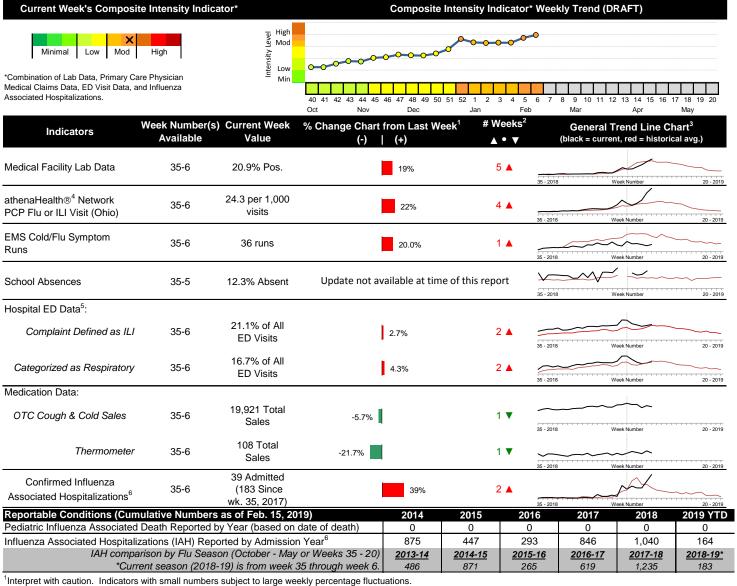
# 2018-2019 Columbus & Franklin County Seasonal Influenza Activity Weekly Summary (Week 6, Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018– Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019)



# **Highlights**

- In week 6 of 2019, the majority of individual local flu activity indicator values increased compared to the previous week. As a whole, flu intensity (composite indicator) increased compared to the previous week and is moderate.
- Geographic spread and local intensity designation (Click here for definitions) = WIDESPREAD, MODERATE
- Local medical facility labs reported 1,891 tests run with 395 (20.9%) positive results for week 6 of 2019.
- The percentage of ED visits for both influenza-like-illness (ILI) and respiratory symptoms increased slightly compared to last week.
- In week 6 of 2019, the trends for local over-the-counter medication category sales tracked were mixed (decrease in cough and cold, thermometer, chest rub, pediatric anti-fever, and throat lozenge sales; increase in electrolyte and adult anti-fever sales) compared to last week.
- In the U.S., influenza activity continues to increase. Please visit the CDC website for specific information.

## Local Flu Activity Dashboard (All data are preliminary and may change as updated reports are received.)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Number of weeks "▲" = Increase (>2%), "▼" = Decrease (>2%), "●" = Stable (-2% to +2%).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Black line is current years data. Based on data availability, red line is historical average (excluding pandemic year).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Data Source: Medical claims data from athenaHealth® (www.athenahealth.com). Rate of Flu or ILI visits to Ohio (statewide) athenaHealth® network primary care practices/physicians. Claims data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when they are recieved.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Franklin County, OH residents only (based on zipcode). NOTE: Excludes one hospital system included in the past due to technical changes affecting visit classification assignment

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Confirmed cases only. Based on jurisdiction equal to Franklin County or City of Columbus and admission date available in ODRS.

## Influenza Morbidity and Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Reports

In week 6, the preliminary Ohio<sup>1</sup> (statewide) influenza and influenza-like-Illness (ILI) visit rate to athenaHealth® providers (24.3 per 1,000 visits) increased compared to the previous week and is above its baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 6 percentage of all Emergency Department (ED) visits categorized as ILI increased slightly compared to the previous week (Figure 3) and is similar to its historic baseline for the week.

Nationally, during week 6 of 2019, 4.8% of patient visits reported through ILINet were due to influenza-like illness (ILI). The percentage is above the national baseline of 2.2% for week six.

#### **Laboratory Surveillance**

During week 6 of 2019, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 1,891 specimens, with 395 (20.9%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2018 through week 6 of 2019 is 30,659 with 1,990 (6.5%) positives (1,858 type A, 130 type B, 0 type A and B, 2 type unknown).

Nationally in week 6 of 2019, clinical laboratories reported 38,350 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 9,428 (24.6%) of which were positive (9,218 type A, 210 type B). Public health laboratories reported testing 1,731 specimens, 1,046 of which were positive (1,029 type A – of which 649 were A(H1N1)pdm09, 357 were H3N2, and 23 were not subtyped; 17 type B – of which 2 were Yamagata lineage, 8 were Victoria lineage, and 7 where lineage was not performed). Please visit the CDC website for more information, including cumulative data.

In week 6 of 2019, Ohio clinical labs reported 41,258 specimens tested for influenza this season thus far. Positive results include: (135) A(H1N1)pdm09; (60) A/H3N2; (3,936) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (69) Flu B (through 2/9/2019). In week 6 of 2019, ODH Public Health Lab reported 369 positive influenza tests from specimens sent by various submitters this season so far. Positive results include: (266) A(H1N1)pdm09; (122) A/H3N2; (1) Influenza B (through 2/9/2019). Please visit the ODH website for more information.

#### **ED Respiratory Visits**

In the 6<sup>th</sup> week of 2019, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as respiratory increased slightly compared to the percentage seen the previous week and is similar to its baseline for the week (Figure 5).

### **Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medication Sales**

In week 6 of 2019, the trends for local over-the-counter medication category sales tracked were mixed (decrease in cough and cold, thermometer, chest rub, pediatric anti-fever, and throat lozenge sales; increase in electrolyte and adult anti-fever sales) compared to last week.

#### **Additional Influenza Activity Web Links:**

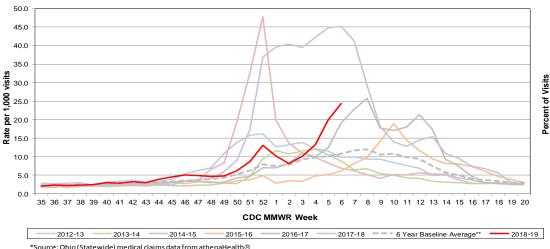
Ohio Seasonal Flu Surveillance: https://odh.ohio.gov

CDC National Seasonal Flu Surveillance Reports: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

World Health Organization Situation Updates: http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance\_monitoring/en/

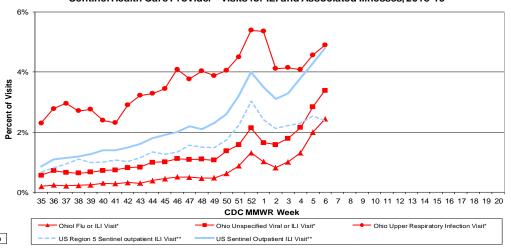
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Note: County level athenaHealth® network primary care medical claims data is no longer available.

Figure 1: Ohio Outpatient Primary Care Provider Influenza or Influenza-Like-Illness Visit Rate



<sup>\*\*</sup>Seasons: 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2015-16, 2016-17

Figure 2: Percentage of Ohio Outpatient Participating Provider\* and CDC National Outpatient Sentinel Health Care Provider\*\* visits for ILI and Associated Illnesses, 2018-19



<sup>\*</sup>Source: Ohio (statewide) medical claims data provided by athenaHealth®. Data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when recieved.

Figure 3: Franklin County Resident ILI Defined\*\* ED Visits, 2018-19, Franklin County, OH

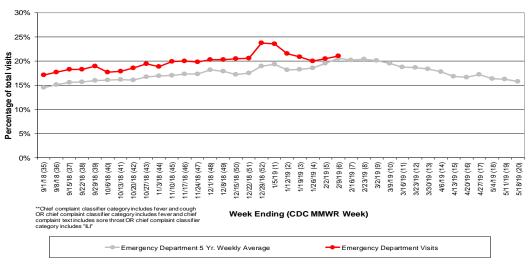
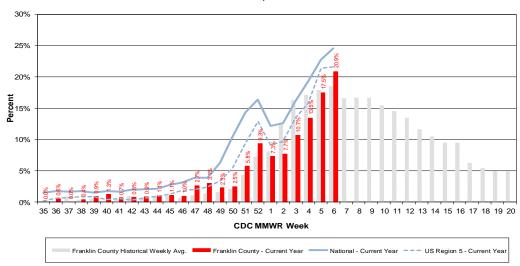


Figure 4: Percentage of Local Reporting and National Laboratory Positive Influenza Tests by Week, 2018-19



Note: athenaHealth® claims data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when they are received.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Source: U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) sentinel provider visits.

Figure 5: Franklin County Resident Respiratory ED Visits, 2018-19, Franklin County, OH

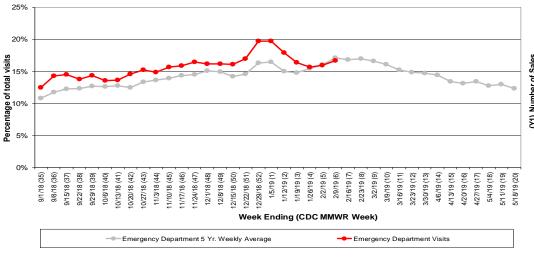


Figure 6: Selected Number of Over-the-Counter Medication Total Sales, 2018-19, Franklin County, OH

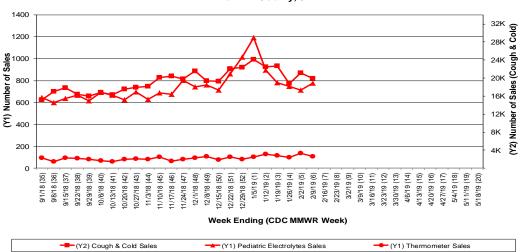
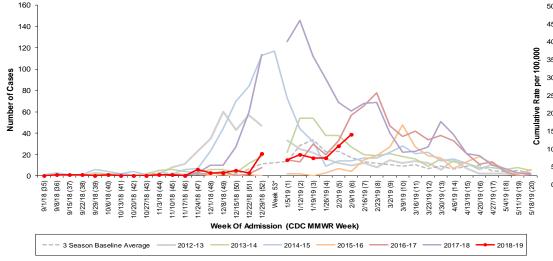


Figure 7: Columbus and Franklin County Jurisdiction Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations by Hospital Admission Week (As of 2/15/2019)



\*Note: Certain years have a 53rd week (e.g., season 2014-15) based on CDCs MMWR Weeks.

Columbus and Franklin County, OH Jurisdiction Confirmed Influenza Hospitalization Cumulative Rates (per 100,000) by Age-Group and Admission Week, 2018-2019 Season

